

Washington, D.C. 20520

September 27, 1977

MEMORANDUM FOR: D - Mr. Dennis Lamb

FROM: PM - Richard A. Ericson, Jr.

SUBJECT: Arms Transfers to Argentina

The Secretary's decision of July 25 drew a clear line between two categories of items for Argentina: 1) covering articles and services which could be used by police and other civil law enforcement agencies which were to be denied; and 2) all other items which were to be reviewed on a case-by-case basis.

HRH is now seeking to ensure, solely on human rights grounds, that all items in the second category are also to be denied. It is in effect again opening up the issue which the Secretary has already decided.

PM's official position therefore must remain as stated in Les Gelb's memorandum of September 15. The point here is that the cases submitted for review have all been scrubbed from the point of view of their intended end use, and those that would contravene the Secretary's July 25 decision have been eliminated. In recent months; we have denied many articles which might be used by Argentine agencies for internal security purposes, including a police computer system, handguns, submachine guns, rifles, small arms ammunition, grenades, crowd control equipment (tear gas, Mace, rubber bullets), electronic tubes for image intensifier equipment, infrared night vision devices and passive radar surveillance systems.

Nonetheless, if necessary there could be some distinctions in the treatment of the items contained in Gelb's memorandum.

~~Department of State, A/GIS/IPS/SRP~~

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